GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2431
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2016
Labour Exploitation
Ahlawat Smt. Santosh

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a)whether the Government has taken note of the reports of exploitation of labourers employed in the factories that supply labourers to various global retail giants operating in the country;
(b)if so, the details thereof indicating the mechanism formulated by/available with the Government for identifying labour exploitation in such companies; and
(c)the steps taken/being taken by the Government to protect the labourers from various exploitation including that by the supplier factories?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

(a) to (c): The Government of India has enacted a comprehensive legislation i.e. the Factories Act, 1948, for taking care of the occupational safety, health & welfare issues of the workers employed in manufacturing sector. There are elaborate provisions pertaining to the health, safety, and welfare i.e. provisions related to hazardous process, working hours, weekly holidays, extra wages for overtime, welfare officers penal provisions etc. The Factories Act, 1948 and the State Factories Rules framed there under are enforced by the respective State/UTs and the State/UTs are empowered to carry out inspections for enforcement of the provisions of the Act and the Rules. Further, provisions exist for State Government to take penal actions for violation of any of the provisions of the Act.
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